(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have proposals to set up new institutions devoted to science education and research;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether these institutions are proposed to be located and the time by which these institutions are likely to start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) Despite the growth of number of universities in India during the past fifty years, there has been a decline in the quality of science education and research. Some of the reasons for this decline are:—

- Poor Infrastructure
- Lack opportunities
- Limited funds
- Absence of an appropriate research environment

(c) to (e) The Government has approved setting up of two new institutions devoted to Science Education and Research to be named "Indian Institute of Science for Education & Research (USER)" to be located at Pune and Kolkata. It is proposed to start the courses from the academic session 2006.

Road proposals from Rajasthan

235. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA:Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Rajasthan have sent any proposals to convert some State Highways into National Highways and to widen certain existing National Highways;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of State Highways out of them for which Government have agreed to convert them into National Highways;

(d) the National Highways for which Government have agreed to widen them into four/six lanes etc; and

(e) the time-frame thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIAPPA): (a) and (b) The State Govt. of Rajasthan have sent proposals to convert 17 State roads into National Higways and 9 proposals to widen existing National Highways. The details of these proposals are at statement I and II respectively. *(See* below).

(c) At present emphasis is being given for development of roads already declared as National Highways instead of declaring more roads as National Highways. Hence no proposal has been approved.

(d) and (e) The details of the National Highways in Rajasthan for which the Government have agreed to widen into four/six lanes and time frame for completion are given below:

SI. No.	NH No.	Section	Length (in Kms.)	Target date of completion
1	14	Gujarat Border to Pindwara	56.3	December 2007
2	76	Pindwara to Udaipur	104	December 2007
3	76	Chittorgarh to Rajasthan/ M.P. Border	366	December 2007
4	11	Bharatpur to Jaipur	165	March 2009
5	3	Dholpur to MP/Rajasthan Border	10	January 2008

Statement-I

Details of proposals for declaration of new National Highways received from State Government of Rajasthan after 25.2.2004

	Details of roads/stretches	Length (in kms)
1.	Mathura-Bharatpur road	40
2.	Nasirabad-Devli road	95
3.	Kotputli-Sikar road	125
4.	Khariwara-Doongarpur-Baanswara-Ratlamroad	210
5.	Swarup-Ganj-Kotra-Som-Kherwada road	147
6.	Faludi-Nagore road	140
7.	Shridungargarh-Sardarshahar-Pulasar-Jasarasar	115
8.	Sawaimadhopur-Shivpuri (MP)	44
9.	Koshi-Kama-Deeg-Bharatpur-Roopwas-Dholpur	139
10.	Gaumti-Chauraha-Desuri-Sadri-Ahor-Jalore-Barmer	306
11.	Phalodi-Balotra-Jaiore-Sirohi	343
12.	Nagaur-Deedwana-Khur-Sikar	176
13.	Kirki Chowki-Bhinder-Saiulumber-Aspur-Durgapur	146
14.	Hodel-Punhana-Nharatpur-Roopwas-Dholpur	202
15.	Chandwaji-Chomu-Bagru on NH-8	171
16.	Sirohi-Mandar-Deesa (Gujarat)	68
17.	Gurgaon-Alwar-Sariska-Dausa-Swaimadhopur	248
	TOTAL :	2715

Statement II

Details of proposals for widening of the existing National Highways to two-lane width received from State Government of Rajasthan during the current financial year

SI.No	Details of roads/stretches
1	Km. 30/0 to 50/0 on NH-89 (Ajmer-Nagaur-Bikaner road)
2	Km. 16/0 to 39/0 on NH-15 (Jaisalmer-Barmer-Sanchore road)
3	Km. 153/0 to 170/200 on NH-65
4	Km. 39/0 to 68/0 on NH-15 (Jaisalmer-Barmer-Sachore road)
5	Km. 289/0 to 309/0 on NH-112
6	Km. 46/0 to 56/0 on NH-65 (Fatehpur-Pali extension)
7	Km. 78/0 to 98/0 on NH-89-Bikaner road
8	Km. 122/0 to 124/0 & 125/0 to 126/0 on NH-89 (Ajmer-Nagaur-Bikaner road)
9	Km. 249/0 to 259/0 on NH-15

National Highways in Canacona

236. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to construct Galjibag and Tolpona bridges on National Highways in Canacona Taluka of South-Goa;

(b) if so, the estimated cost of the construction; and

(c) the details of the progress with respect to the construction made so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) There is no proposal to construct Galjibag and Tolpona bridges on National Highway-17 in Canacona Taluka of South-Goa in the current Annual Plan 2005-06. However, the entire stretch of NH-17 in Goa has been included for four laning on Build Operate Transfer (BOT) basis under NHDP Phase-Ill and is